

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A pressurized wheel hub for a trailer having at least one axle, comprising: a wheel hub having bearings that are rotatably securable to the axle; seals between said wheel hub and said axle, said seals forming a closed air space around said bearings; and an annular pneumatic chamber which is coaxially disposed on the axle having an inlet adapted for fluidly coupling to a source of pressurized air and an outlet coupled to said closed air space, said source of pressurized air maintaining between 1psi and 30 psi in said closed air space.
2. (Original) The pressurized wheel hub according to claim 1 including a means for measuring the amount of pressurized air placed within closed air space.
3. (Original) The pressurized wheel hub according to claim 2 wherein said means for measuring is further defined as pressure gauge providing a visual indication of the pressurized air whereby a breached seal condition within the wheel hub can be detected.
4. (Original) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 3, wherein said air pressure gauge includes a dial face and a pressure indicating needle moving relative to said dial face in direct relation to the air pressure within said closed air system.
5. (Original) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 3, wherein said air pressure gauge includes a color coded dial face capable of indicating safe operation of the wheel hub.

6. (Previously presented) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 1, wherein said means for fluidly coupling is further defined as an annular pneumatic chamber which is coaxially disposed along an end of said axle having an inlet located outside said seal and an outlet located within said closed air space.

7. (Previously presented) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 5, wherein said air pressure gauge is fluidly coupled to said closed air space.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 1, wherein said pneumatic chamber is coupled to a DC air compressor located on the trailer.

10. (Original) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 8, wherein said pneumatic chamber is coupled to a DC air compressor located on a towing vehicle.

11. (Previously presented) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 1 including a polished sleeve securable to said axle and operatively associated with said oil seal, wherein said polished sleeve provides a machined surface to permit enhanced sealing with said oil seal.

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12. (Previously presented) The pressurized wheel hub of claim 1, further comprising an air pressure gauge fluidly coupled to said closed air space.